

NEW YORK, SUNDAY, JUNE 9, 1918.—Copyright, 1918, by the Sun Printing and Publishing Association.

BRITISH MEAT
RATIONING HITS
CITY KITCHENSPublic Reluctant to Buy
Supplies Except From
the Butchers.

LIVERPOOL MEETS NEED

Authorities Arrange Menus So
Coupons May Be Spread
Over Entire Week.

Special Correspondence to The Sun.

LONDON, May 25.—The extension of the meat rationing by coupon has hit the northern municipal food kitchens. The public are showing reluctance to part with their coupons for anything but meat from the butchers, and in consequence there was a great slump in the sale of the coupons.

Lord Rhonda has emphasized over and over again the important part municipal kitchens can play in conserving foodstuffs and insuring equitable distribution, and the matter is causing concern both to the local authorities, and the Food Controller himself now it is discovered that one scheme endangers the work of the other.

One cause is the inclusion of offal among the ration. People are chary of using a coupon upon such meats, and are in fact loath to part with the coupon for the purpose of getting a meal of cooked butchers' meat from the kitchen.

The managers of the Liverpool kitchen have attempted to solve the problem. They have arranged their menu so that it is possible to have a meat meal four days in the week by expending the three coupons. They suggest the observance of Monday as a meatless day and the expenditure of half a coupon daily with one whole coupon on Saturday for that day's food, and additional supply for use on the Sunday.

Menus Are Varied.

No one need be deterred from availing themselves of the Liverpool kitchen through fear of monotonous menus. A sample week's menu follows:

Monday—Soup, roast stuffed hearts and thick gravy, war stew, potatoes and gravy, boiled carrots, boiled rice and peas, and rice pudding.

Tuesday—Soup, roast stuffed hearts and thick gravy, war stew, potatoes and gravy, boiled carrots, boiled rice and peas, and rice pudding.

Wednesday—Soup, stewed kidneys and potatoes, fish and chips, potatoes and gravy, fish cakes and parsley sauce, boiled beans and thick gravy, baked treacle and rice pudding.

Thursday—Soup, stewed liver and onions, fish and chips, potatoes and gravy, fish cakes and parsley sauce, boiled beans and thick gravy, baked treacle and rice pudding.

Friday—Soup, stewed liver and onions, fish and chips, potatoes and gravy, fish cakes and parsley sauce, boiled beans and thick gravy, baked treacle and rice pudding.

Saturday—Soup, roast stuffed hearts and thick gravy, war stew, potatoes and gravy, boiled carrots, boiled rice and peas, and rice pudding.

Sunday—Soup, roast stuffed hearts and thick gravy, war stew, potatoes and gravy, boiled carrots, boiled rice and peas, and rice pudding.

Halifax has inaugurated a travelling kitchen. An old tramcar has been fitted up with ovens and cookers which are worked with electricity from the overhead wires.

The car is loaded at the central kitchen and driven out to the suburbs, where it stands for a period at various points. The success of the scheme is proved by the necessity of the aid of the police in regulating the customers and the clearing out of the stocks in record time.

The Ministry of Food has directed that in all the jails in the country prisoners who have never been put in prison other than prison for their own protection should be provided with the necessary cards before they are discharged. Without this precaution they would be unable to obtain meat, butter, margarine or sugar until the appropriate forms had been secured, signed and registered.

Candy Sales Controlled.

The sale of sweets is to be controlled by a system of registration. Every dealer who has to obtain the local food committee a certificate before he is able to obtain supplies.

With a view to confining the business to those who are dependent upon the sale of sweets for their livelihood no certificate will be issued to traders who do not sell quantities of sweets by retailing over 20 per cent. of their total takings.

The order does not affect the sale of sweets by hawkers, nor the sale of sweets from automatic machines if used previous to the date of the order.

With the passing of the budget the price of jams and marmalades has been increased by two cents a pound. The day following the increase per taxation every dealer received a circular from the Excise Department informing them that they were permitted to charge the excess price, but that they must keep accounts and turn over the additional charge on request.

LONDON TO OPEN
OWN RESTAURANTFood Ministry Will Serve Six-
teen Cent Meals.

Special Correspondence to The Sun.

LONDON, May 25.—A national restaurant is to be opened in London by the Ministry of Food. The restaurant, which will be the first of its kind, will be established in a large store near Ludgate Hill station. There will be a long bar and tables and chairs. Customers will make their purchases at the bar. There will be no waiters or waitresses.

Substantial dinners will be provided at prices between 16 and 24 cents. In the same building and in connection with it is to be the first national kitchen for the city of London, which will be opened in the near future.

The seating capacity for the restaurant will be about 250.

Food prices are the prices which will be charged in both the restaurant and the kitchen:

Soup, 4 pints, 3 cents; 1 pint, 2 cents; 1/2 pint, 1 cent.

Meat, 1/4 lb., 1 cent; 1/2 lb., 2 cents; 3/4 lb., 3 cents; 1 lb., 4 cents.

Vegetables, 1/4 lb., 1 cent; 1/2 lb., 2 cents; 3/4 lb., 3 cents; 1 lb., 4 cents.

Puddings, 1/4 lb., 1 cent; 1/2 lb., 2 cents; 3/4 lb., 3 cents; 1 lb., 4 cents.

Meat pies and puddings, 8 cents.

Arrangements are to be made to supply meals for consumption off the premises. Certain dishes will be on sale in the restaurant in heat containing condiments for the benefit of outside diners.

Royal Rabbitry Planned.

Special Correspondence to The Sun.

LONDON, May 25.—A royal rabbitry is in contemplation. Princess Mary has become interested in the establishment of a rabbitry in Buckingham Palace mews with fifty does.

PARIS FACES CLEAN LINEN
SHORTAGE AS NEW WAR WOEWashwomen's Union Warns Public of 20 Per Cent.
Increase on Rates That Now Double the Schedule
in Vogue Before the Germans Broke Loose.

PARIS, May 24.—Since the war began the price of washing has at least doubled. Now the public has been warned by the Washwomen's Union (Union Nationale des Blanchisseuses de Paris) that a 20 per cent. increase is to be added to present rates.

Everything has gone up, they explain, which will have a familiar ring to Americans. The vast majority of washwomen take their work to the laundries, rent tubs, driers and the like at so much a day.

The laundries, or public wash houses, which used to charge a 10 cent fee, now charge 20. The driers, which used to be rented for 4 cents, now are 10. The water rate used to be a sou, now it is two.

Soap and blue and the like are in the same proportion.

Further, many of the women who used to do this work now prefer to work in munitions factories. It gravely added to the shortage of the increased prices of Paris does not change its linen so often, so receipts have fallen off.

At the great public laundry, which is paying the fuel dictator's price of \$30 a ton for coal and \$41 for coke, the question of raising prices, which were raised 160 per cent. four years ago, is under advisement today.

Agitation is under way for building municipal wash houses to replace the 120 establishments of the kind closed in Paris and suburbs because of war conditions.

It occurred to the thoughtful Aristide that there must be hundreds of travellers and visitors in Paris who would have no safe refuge when the alarm was sounded for an air raid. So he issued, in one of the principal Paris newspapers, an excellent circular. He furnished them luxuriously and hung out a blue lantern with the device of a siren upon it. Any one who so desired could take refuge in these collars in case of an air raid and entirely without charge. Except that if he wished the visitor might buy refreshments or might enjoy joining in a little game of bacca.

But the police broke it up. A narrow-minded prefect pretended to think that the game was not entirely innocent.

Long before the war Aristide, his pity moved by the sad plight of the overworked, established a sanatorium or cure for the patients by paying a lump sum fee (\$25) for their treatment. On the stage set with all the paraphernalia of the gambling house—roulette, baccarat, etc.—many actors were to be seen playing for high stakes.

The object of the water was stated as being the saving of coal, but the effect, especially in middle class homes, was to rely more on the coal fire for cooking and heating purposes than the other means, and as a result more coal will be burned. To add to the difficulty the Board of Trade has announced that further restrictions shortly will be placed upon coal.

The London traffic problem was never in even a fair way of solution until the American experts came over in early May. They succeeded in doing more than solving the problem of rapid transit—they taught the people to use their systems, and the passenger traffic of London has grown enormously in consequence.

Today experts are needed more than ever as the situation of London traffic faces the present conditions gone from bad to worse. The commandeering by the military authorities has reduced the supply of motor omnibuses to a mere dribble, while the saving of coal and electricity has caused the withdrawal of many of the surface cars and the subway trains.

In consequence every vehicle is crowded, and to attempt to board either train or car or bus during the rush hours is only a possibility for the athlete. The London traffic problem is a real one, and the passenger traffic of London has grown enormously in consequence.

Several late trains and cars have been taken off, and in the outer London districts the railway companies have been asked to stop running trains after the war.

The London County Council has reduced the service to a great extent and has abolished all transfer tickets and increased fares generally.

While the omnibus and tramway companies have increased their fares on a few stages only, the railway company faces the prospect of a similar fate when the State took over control some months ago.

LONDON STREET POSTS MAY GO.

Melting of Old Statues for Munitions Also Advocated.

Special Correspondence to The Sun.

LONDON, May 25.—It has been suggested that London should rid herself of a number of street posts and other unnecessary iron ornaments in the interests of the quick production of munitions. The question of the street posts is being considered by the authorities, but a number of these posts are to be removed.

The Albert Memorial would be of no use in the shape of munitions than in its present form, but a writer in the Star goes further and suggests that all the statues erected from the time of George I. to the Prince Consort should be melted down and added that they would not be missed, because the majority of them represent Germans.

WINE PRICES SOAR IN LONDON.

Saloon Keepers Make Up for Profit-Steering Brake on Whiskey.

Special Correspondence to The Sun.

LONDON, May 25.—The whiskey and spirit prices have limited the power of the saloon keeper to profiteer in these articles, with the result that the prices of wines have gone up with a run. A glass of port, which at one time was 10 cents, is now 24 cents. Mixed vermouth has risen to 24 cents a glass, or even to 36 cents in some West End establishments.

By the bottle prices have been increased in the case of Italian vermouth from 40 cents the litre to as much as \$1.80, and the price of inferior French vermouth is \$2. Other wines are double or treble pre-war prices.

GERMANS POILED IN SPAIN.

French Exhibit to Counteract Teuton Influence.

Special Correspondence to The Sun.

PARIS, May 24.—German efforts are being made to counteract the German influence in Spain. One of the latest attempts to build up a cordial feeling with the country south of the Pyrenees is the opening of an exhibition of French art which is being held in Madrid.

Such eminent Frenchmen as Gabriel Hanotaux, Charles Weyl, Imbart de la Tour, Fernand Lelann, and Telsier, Pourcelle and Raphael-Georges Levy are in attendance.

AFRICAN POTATOES IN PARIS.

Food Dictator Cuts Profit of Dealers to Minimum.

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PARIS, May 24.—Potatoes from the north of Africa are beginning to arrive in the Paris market. Last year they were sold at outrageous prices. This season the price has been set by M. Boret, the food dictator, at approximately 8 cents a pound.

The Algerian syndicate agreed to deliver them wholesale in Paris at something like 5 cents a pound, so it may be seen the Food Administration has shaved the profit for the dealers very thin.

PARIS FROWNS
ON WAR GENIUSPrefect Stops Baccarat Games
in Bombproof Cellars, Sus-
pecting Promoter.

AND THAT THEATRE, TOO

One Would Think That Money
Was Lost, the Way the
Police Acted.

Special Correspondence to The Sun.

PARIS, May 24.—Aristide Barbotin is in trouble again. He protests that he is a much misunderstood philanthropist.

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BUTCHERS REAP
RICHES IN ITALYWith Beef Selling at \$1.50 a
Pound They Are Buying
Jewelry.

MEATLESS DAYS ALSO

Food Commissioner Takes
Hand and Now Has Elim-
inated the Middleman.

Special Correspondence to The Sun.

ROME, May 23.—There seems to be no doubt that butchers in Italy are earning more money than the owners of munition factories. Easily acquired wealth is profusely spent with an unparagoning hand as a rule, in this country, and a proof that butchers are making so much money that it is actually burning in their pockets is afforded by the following episode.

Some time ago a prosperous looking couple entered one of the most expensive jewelry shops in Rome and asked to be shown diamond necklaces. The necklace they selected cost \$15,000.

"Haven't you got something better?" the intending purchaser asked the jeweller, who, hiding his surprise, showed them a string of pearls worth \$20,000. No time was wasted in bargaining, and without the slightest hesitation as to whether the diamonds should be preferred to the pearls, on the wife's suggestion that both the diamonds and the pearls could be bought, the husband paid \$35,000 in cash and walked out arm in arm with his wife, leaving the utmost indifference as to the buying expensive jewelry was his daily habit.

Of course this man was a butcher, and other butchers in other cities in Italy no doubt are investing their profits in jewelry on the same extensive scale.

With beef at \$1.50 a pound it is natural that butchers' wives should have diamonds and pearls in abundance.

Consumption Is Decreased.

Two meatless days a week were fixed about a year ago, and as the great mass of the people live on bread and macaroni and as a rule abstain from animal food, the fact that high prices due to shortage would be sufficient to diminish consumption. This assumption to some extent proved well founded.

Since, at a market price, meat consumption has been reduced about 30 per cent., but at the same time, since the outbreak of the war, the military authorities have been extensively requisitioning live stock to feed the army, so that the reduction in meat consumption only relates to the civilian population.

But besides eating less meat Italians are paying prohibitive prices for it. The live stock requisitioned for the army is paid for at the rate of about 30 cents a pound on the hoof. This price is far above the price that cattle breeders and farmers have to submit to. The inevitable result is that retail prices keep rising, as butchers refuse to sell meat unless their profits are gross, and every attempt to lower prices proves worse than useless, as it renders the shortage still more acute and further encourages distribution.

Other Food Costs More.

People in Italy are forced to eat less meat, but bread and macaroni are rationed, and prices are high, and are exceptionally dear. Very often despite the prevailing high cost of beef they find it pays better to eat dear beef instead of dear vegetables. Besides, owing to increased wages, the standard of living of the laboring classes has improved, and while before the war meat was considered a luxury, now in many cases it is included among the necessities of life. In such circumstances it is quite natural that butchers should profit and get rich quick.

The military commissioner is blamed for this exceptionally acute situation, which it is said might have been averted had a rationing scheme been timely adopted. Possibly to some extent this is true. But the conditions are such that it is a grave failure in a country like Italy, where the customs are different in each province and where most people expect to get their meat from the butcher.

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BRITISH OFFICIALS
FAVOR GAS POWERTests Show New Fuel Is Just
as Economical as Gasoline.

Special Correspondence to The Sun.

LONDON, May 25.—The Government Committee on Gas Traction has issued a report in favor of the use of gas for road traction. The committee is satisfied that ordinary town gas can be effectively, safely and promptly substituted for motor spirit as fuel for road traction. It is also satisfied that the use of gas for road traction is a more economical method of propulsion than the use of motor spirit.

The committee recommended that the gas for road traction should be supplied by two and one-half inch bore screwed with a standard pipe thread to take the union of that size pipe. The union should be of the standard size at end of flexible tube, or connecting pipe through which gas passed from supply source.

They suggest that the charges for motor gas should not be more than 10 cents per 100 cubic feet over the ruling domestic rate, with a minimum of 12 cents a filling.

Certain arrangements for the protection of the containers are suggested, and they invite experiments with gas up to 1,000 pounds a square inch pressure.

The subject of the control of gas is under consideration, but if the gas is used in the construction of the gas bags, it will be of great value.

BRITISH OFFER GRATUITIES.

Men Promoted From Ranks to Re-
ceive Grant of \$250.

Special Correspondence to The Sun.

LONDON, May 25.—Important concessions to non-commissioned officers and men who receive temporary commissions are announced in a new army order.

Men promoted from the ranks will receive a grant of \$250 for the provision of kit and uniform when they make an undertaking to serve for at least two years after the termination of hostilities will receive a further outfit allowance of \$250.

If an officer ceases to serve within that period the allowance of \$537 shall be deducted from the gratuity or retirement pay due to him at the time he is discharged, but if he is killed or dies before the end of the war the amount will be credited to his estate.

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